

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**  
**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING A CLUSTERED LOAD**  
**BALANCER**

5           A system and method of organizing a front-end load balancing function for implementing an Internet site so the transmission control protocol (TCP) connections, established between the front-end load balancing function and end-users, are spread over more than one individual load balancer (ILB). Each ILB consistently self-asserts a primary ILB owner for each one of the TCP connections. Hence, each ILB, for each delegated TCP connection can process each TCP connection on behalf of the load balancing function while handing off the other TCP connections to the corresponding ILB owners. Also, each ILB consistently self-asserts a backup ILB owner for each one of the TCP connections so the designated back up ILB owner takes over the processing of an ILB owned TCP connection should the ILB owner become incapable of processing the delegated TCP connection.